

REMARKS

Applicant has analyzed the Office Action mailed November 30, 2004. Claims 1-6, 8-12, and 14-25 are pending. Claims 1-5, 8-12, 15-19 and 21-25 are rejected. Claims 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, and 26 have been objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Claims 7, 13, and 26 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 6, 8, 14, 15, 20 and 21 have been amended to further clarify the allowable subject matter. No new matter has been added with these amendments to the claims. Reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

The present invention is directed a VoIP gateway system for use in the IP network comprising a plurality of voice processing units, each having a unique IP address and a main processing unit connected via a HUB. The voice processing units and the main processing unit share the local LAN for sending and receiving a voice data packet by connecting the PSTN and the IP network. The load concentration on the system bus is reduced; thus, this sharing of resources effectively increases the number of lines which can be handled for one voice processing unit. When transferring a packet to the IP network, only the IP address of the main processing unit is managed by a gatekeeper. The gatekeeper effectively performs the IP address management.

Other aspects and variations of the present invention will be discussed, as relevant, below.

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 1-5, 8-12, 15-19, and 21-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barraclough et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2001/0024436 A1). Claim 13 has been cancelled without prejudice.

Claim 1 has been amended to include allowable subject matter of claim 7. Claim 8 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 13. Claim 15 has been amended to include allowable subject matter of claim 7. Claim 21 has been

amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 26. Thus, Applicant respectfully asserts amended claims 1, 8, 15, and 21 are allowable.

Claims 2-5 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on amended claim 1. Claims 9-12 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on amended claim 8. Claims 16-19 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on amended claim 15. Claims 22-25 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on amended claim 21.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the recognition of allowable subject matter in claims 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, and 26.

As discussed above, amended claim 1 includes allowable subject matter of claim 7 and amended claim 8 includes allowable subject matter of claim 13. Claim 14 has been written in independent form as indicated by the Examiner. Claim 6 has been amended to correct for an inadvertent error. Thus, Applicant respectfully asserts amended claims 1, 6, 8, and 14 are allowable.

Amended claim 15 includes allowable subject matter of claim 7 and amended claim 21 includes allowable subject matter of claim 26. Claim 20 has been amended to correct for an inadvertent error. Thus, Applicant respectfully asserts amended claims 15, 20 and 21 are allowable.

CONCLUSION

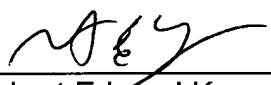
Applicant submits that the present amendment places claims 1-5, 6, 8-12, and 14-25 of the present application are in condition for allowance.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein; and no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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